

# KANSAS AGITATOR.

Devoted to the Interests of

## THE MASSES.

A Wide-Awake Advocate of All of the Reforms of the Day.

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### An Open Question.

Everybody is curious to know what course the Republicans will pursue at the short session of Congress, and nobody seems able to answer the conundrum. Republican Senators and Representatives who are daily arriving in Washington, make a bee line for the White House, as soon as the dust of travel is removed from their whiskers, but when asked what they propose doing when Congress meets, they either refuse outright to answer, or else answer in such a way as to convey no information. It is evident that they have not fully determined themselves what they will do and probably will not until some sort of a conference or caucus is held, and it is by no means certain that an agreement can then be reached.—Progress.

Of course they don't know what to do. They are in the same condition of mind that a man would be if he were to go up in a balloon and locate on an entire new continent. But what to do? What can they do? If they do anything for the people they will have to denounce every act of theirs for the past 30 years. The nefarious legislation at their hands has condemned them with the thinking masses and to avert that condemnation they must turn about and condemn their own works. Truly they are beyond redemption.—Iowa Tribune.

Yes, they are beyond redemption. If the honest masses of this nation will only stand by their individual rights as American citizens, it is not what will be the greatest interest to the greatest number that is troubling the bosses of the two old political hulls to-day, but it is some hypocritical scheme with a cloak on by which they can deceive the people, and thereby pull their old party hull to shore in '92. It's the interest of the party they are looking after.

A circular issued by the Alliance of Nebraska truthfully said:

Since 1860 the Republican party has controlled the presidency except in 1885-89 and the Democracy controlled the Senate in 1879 to 1883 and the House in 1875 to 1881 and 1883-1889, and during all this time scarcely a single request of yours has been honestly acted on while hardly a behest of power has been denied. Having failed and deceived you don't let them do so again. To vote a Republican or Democratic ticket is the loss of your vote, condones their offenses, approves their past and encourages leaders in their reprehensible course.—Ex.

History demonstrates the fact that it is impossible to accomplish a political reform through an old political party. Hence the great necessity of the Alliance and all other reform organizations to come together in one grand people's national reform party. A party of this kind is the one that will win in '92.

Send in your subscriptions, and get your neighbors to subscribe.

### Taffy.

A gentleman who held the office of representative during eleven sessions of the legislature admits that he recognizes the fact that the people need relief in many ways. The same gentleman did all he could to defeat the People's movement, and would not have made any such admission before the election. Yet he knew as well before, as after, what the people needed; or else he must be very dull, considering his large experience in the legislature.

An old Republican and office-holder, and one who opposed the People's ticket, now admits that the cyclone in this state will do lots of good, if even the one campaign ends the movement.

The above are samples of what Republicans are saying, all over this state; but we advise the people, all the same, to trust them not, for it is only a short time since the same gentleman proclaimed in every city and village, that the people were fools, cranks, and did not know enough to know what they needed, or what they wanted.

If the people "need relief in many ways," it is certain that the need is not of sudden growth, neither is it normal. Some adverse influence has been at work producing this need; and that influence is found entrenched in the old parties, both in their aims and in the legislation given the people. The sincerity of sudden conversions may reasonably be doubted under the circumstances.

### The Alliance in Politics.

The Alliance has no politics, in the usual definition of the word, for the belonging to, and voting with, any political party in existence does not in the least interfere with the standing of members thus voting. But it must not be understood that politics, in the sense that politics is the science of government, is not a proper subject for discussion in the sub-alliances; neither can it be denied that recently, at least, politics has been a leading subject; and also, it cannot be denied that the People's movement was inaugurated by the Alliance people; but the political party is a separate affair, and will remain so. No order can do two things at the same time. To gather into the order and educate in all important affairs of life is first in order of importance, and will be adhered to.

THE AGITATOR does not see any good reason why state senators should have a longer term of office than representatives. Duties are about the same, and just as much wisdom and general fitness is found in house as in the senate; and also the house is generally closer to the people, so that if either body should have the longest term, it should be the house. Also the late election demonstrates the possibility of a complete political change of sentiment within so short a period as two years, and while the change in the people is overwhelming, no corresponding change in the senate is permitted, because the opportunity is withheld. The granting to senators the longer term may, as under present circumstances, perpetuate measures and retain men in office not wished for. If the people had voted for senators this fall, the age-of-consent, John Jeems senators would have staid at home, and in their stead we would have men in sympathy with the people, and the People's movement—who could be relied upon to support reform measures.

### The Wall Street Flurry.

It is suggested by some persons well posted in Wall street matters that the late panic—politely called "a flurry"—in the New York stock exchange was due to the efforts of Jay Gould to secure a controlling interest in a certain railroad. In order to be able to purchase the stock at rates that would be satisfactory to him he precipitated a panic, the general depreciation of all properties and brought ruin on many large houses. It was the plan of the gross and commonplace man who lures a ship to destruction by false lights on the shore in order that he may enrich himself by wreckage.

It was reported that the recovery of the market and cessation of the panic was due to the rumor that Gould had acquired a controlling interest in this road. This being done, it was known that his attack upon values would cease.

If this is correct it is probable that Gould cleared many millions in the enterprise, and the plan shows one of the methods by which the property is being taken out of the hands of the people and accumulated in the hands of speculators and railroad wreckers.

The millions that have been made in the recent panic—and the amount is probably greater than would be required to keep all the poor of New York City in comfort through the winter—have been taken from the masses of the people, and taken from them by a system which is nothing more nor less than robbery. The men who have gained these millions have given absolutely nothing in return. They simply raised a panic, cornered the money market so as to make it impossible for men with payments to make to meet the payments—in this way forced property to be put on the market and sold at any sacrifice to raise cash, and then stood ready to buy so much of this property at the reduced rate as they personally desired.

And in order to get this plunder they demoralized and for a few days almost paralyzed the whole business of the country.

For every dollar that they gained in their swindling enterprises they damaged the general interests of the country to the extent of many dollars.

Is it any wonder that with such outrages being committed against the people while no attempt is made to prevent them, that wild and visionary schemes gain encouragement, and threats of retribution are indulged in?—The Beacon.

When will the laboring masses in this country get relief through national and state legislation? The echo to the answer of this question comes ringing back, saying, "never, unless the honest voters of this country forever cease working for a party and voting for its candidates, knowing that both the party and its candidates are more concerned in legislating for the welfare and perpetuity of the party, than they are for the general welfare of the masses, and the perpetuity of this government."

THE People's party, before the election, was claimed to be a resubmission scheme, in disguise, but the truth is that other issues, that had been ignored by the Republican party, were, in the estimation of the People's party, of far greater moment, and so by that party prohibition (already a part of our constitution) was left in the back-ground. It now appears that there are 31 People's representatives in favor of resubmission, and 60 against. The fact that part are for, and part against, is proof that there was no resubmission scheme in view, and that fact is emphasized, by the large number against. The People's party set out to right certain wrongs, upon which the masses could agree. Among these wrongs were to be found, high taxes paid by farmers, oppression by railroads and combinations, and a contracted circulating medium. To right these wrongs it was necessary to send men to congress, and so the great prize contended for was a United States senator and congressman. Resubmissionist, Prohibitionist, Democrat and Republican having stood shoulder to shoulder in one great battle cannot now be divided.

THE Indiana State Farmer's Alliance in convention at Indianapolis, closed last Friday. The resolutions demand that all the public officers shall be paid fixed salaries; that a bimetallic system of coinage and the free and unlimited coinage of silver shall be adopted; that the traffic in liquor shall be stopped; that the State tax laws shall be revised so as to provide for a fair and assessment; that pension legislation shall be fair, and the passage of private pension bills stopped; that gambling in products which are articles of food shall be made a crime. The Australian election law was indorsed and the presence of deputy United States marshals at the polls was denounced as reflecting upon the ability of the citizens of Indiana to conduct elections. The following officers were elected: President, T. W. Force, Shoals; vice president, D. H. Yeoman, Rensselaer; secretary, F. W. W. Prigg, Middletown; treasurer, T. B. Hunt, Iceland; State organizer, Thomas East, Anderson.—Iowa Tribune.

G. W. WHITE, writes from Hickory Grove, Georgia: "A great agitation is going on, and still more is needed to waken the sleepy masses to their danger. No North, no South, no West, no East, but one common country of equal privileges to all and special favor to none."

SEVERAL short-term subscriptions expire with this issue. We trust that each and every one will be renewed for a year. We make no promises that cannot be kept, but we promise that the AGITATOR will improve with each issue, and will be a RED-HOT advocate of reform in all lines.

SOME Illinois man calls the McKinley bill the "wage earners tariff." That's pretty good. It's a tariff that the wage earner has to pay.—The Beacon.

A political party is to be judged, not for what it has done in the past or on its past record, but it must be judged by its present acts.

FARMERS' Alliance, you have got the fort; hold it. Kansas is coming two hundred thousand strong in '92.

ORGANIZE and unite for 1892.